

WHAM

NEWS, VIEWS and REVIEWS

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November 5, 2015

MODEL COVERING TECHNIQUES

From Bill Schmidt

In covering a model frame work using the various types of materials commonly used other than plastic films, there are several things that one should observe. To begin with, the underlying structure should receive some attention to avoid the usual pitfalls that so often crop up after the framework is covered.

1. Besides the normal caveat to sand the surfaces smooth making sure that there are no mismatches at the intersections of the structure, you should do the following: At all right angle intersections, and especially at the meeting of an acute angle joint, you should always glue in gussets to prevent a guaranteed wrinkle from appearing in the covering at the corners.
2. Esaki Jap tissue is applied dry nearly always and then shrunk with 70% alcohol sprayed on. Any wrinkles that remain can be licked with a wet tongue. This usually gets the wrinkle fixed. Clever huh? This tissue has a notable wet strength capability and can be worked around nose blocks and contours to some degree with careful handling of it. Domestic tissue has the wet strength of toilet paper and is therefore tricky to work with if you so choose or have to use it. When you end up with the corner wrinkle when using tissue of any kind, you are done. There is no way to fix this situation at this point in time. Silk is very similar in its outcome and can produce wrinkles also in the corners, albeit not quite as bad.
3. Now, when using Poly-Span, you have the ability to heat shrink the wrinkles out of the corners once or twice and save the situation. This material possesses this saving grace. Using regular heavy Poly-Span is so simple and easy, and it fills well on the first coat of dope. There are virtually no pin holes left to vex you when using this heavier covering material. On the other hand, the light weight Poly Span material can give you fits with the many pin holes that are left in the covering after heat shrinking and then the application of 2 coats of dope. The best solution to fixing/avoiding this problem is to apply the light Poly-Span as tight and smooth as possible to the framework and then apply dope to it before heat shrinking the material.

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September 12, 2015 Meeting Minutes

ATTENDEES:

Mary Kay & George Avila, Jeff Englert, Jane & Earl Griffith, Regina & Marty Kline, Marty & Jim O'Reilly, Ed Salguero, Dan Walton,

President Avila called the meeting to order, Minutes were approved as sent. Treasurer O'Reilly reported that the club assets remained positive.

OLD BUSINESS:

A bunch of reminders and descriptions of past and future (at least before this meeting) contests was discussed.

The flying field has been cut, so enjoy!

NEW BUSINESS:

A reminder that the November meeting will be election of club officers. Step up!

SHOW AND TELL:

Jim O'Reilly displayed his latest version of his Moffett design. He claimed min weight, a VTO from single peg ROG gear using 55 grams of rubber. He discussed some of the design features in the last NFFS issue of Freefight. Missed it? JOIN NFFS!

Chuck Powell had gliders; a Stray Cat 10 from a Stan Buddenbohm plan and an RDT equipped Spinfin.

Dan Walton showed up with his latest RC craft, a first person view quadcopter. He passed the viewer around so everyone could take a look!

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What's happening here, is the undoped covering is stretched, and the holes in the porous material are opened up bigger than before. This pre-doping tends to hold the material together and keeps the holes from enlarging when the heat is applied. This is not a perfect cure for the problem but helps quit a bit.

Realize that with this technique, especially on an under cambered wing for example, that you are creating a series of small sections of structure requiring the subsequent shrinking to tighten each separate little box instead of the entire length of the wing being able to tauten as a large single unit. This can lead to some bumps in the effort. Subsequent doping can relieve and relax the separate boxes and allow the covering to smooth out for the most part. It works for well for me.

4. For goodness sakes, do not try to stretch either types of Poly-Span around compound contours or wing tips. Just take the time to cover these with a separate small piece of material. Understandably, the same goes for tissues also. Don't be lazy in this respect - do it right. Only silk gives you the wonderful ability to pull and wrap compound contours as though they were painted. I derive a great degree of satisfaction from silk covering a rubber model nose block. It really does look like it is painted until you look

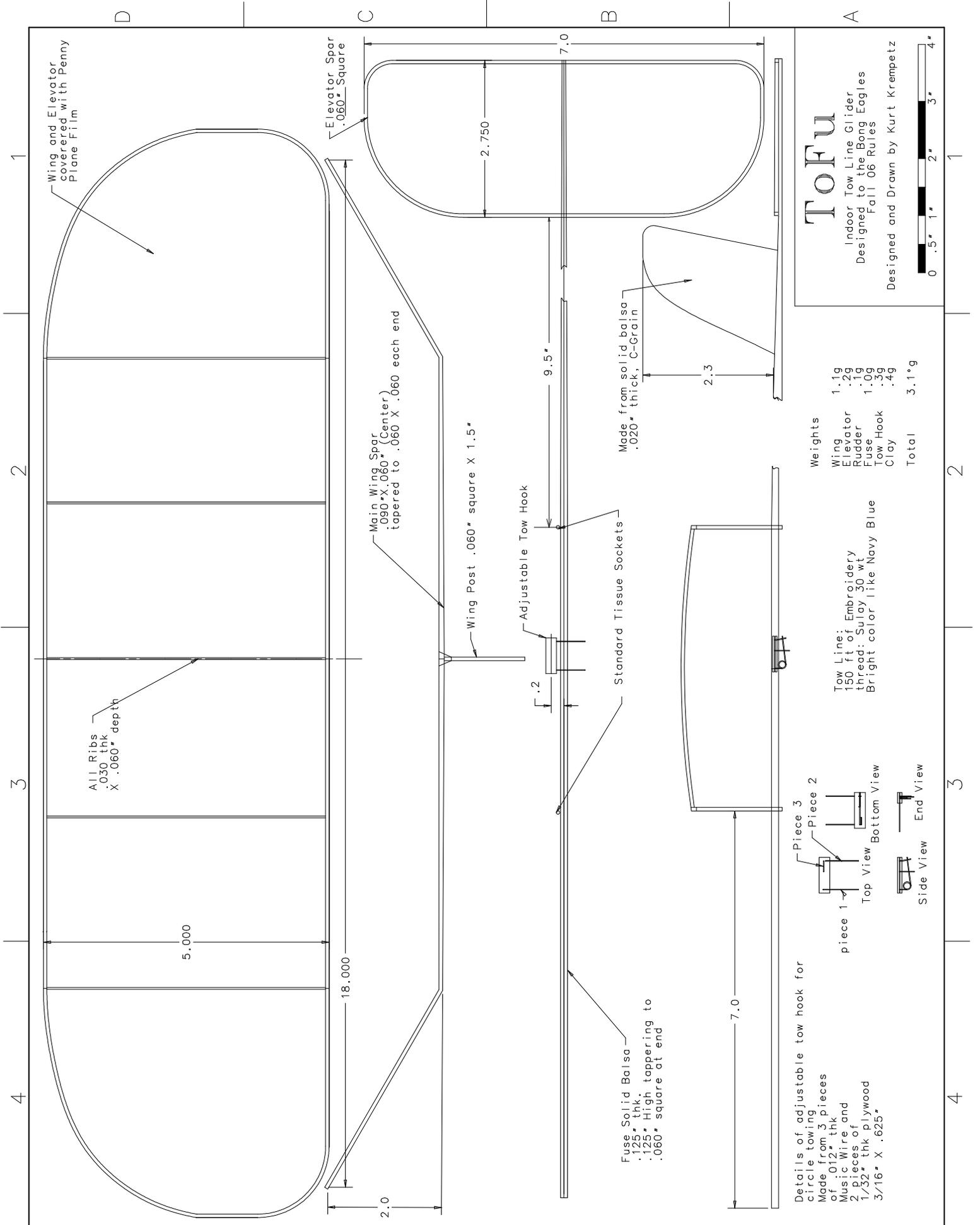
closely at it. Just pre-dope the frame several times and then water wet the centered piece of silk in place. Tug the corners down and apply only thinner to provide initial adhesion. After you get it pulled down to suit you, then you can apply clear dope to finish out the job. Silk can be used to cover the round, tapering contoured structure of a fuselage applied in two side pieces. This really works out well. Problem: Where to get silk nowadays. ---- Google it.

5. We mostly know to run the grain of the covering material lengthwise on the long run of the structure. BUT, on the vertical fin only, one should run the grain fore and aft to prevent wrinkles. Gussets at all the angular intersections help to preclude wrinkles, but running the grain fore and aft really works out well in this area.

6. Never use Jap tissue for trim designs as it is too dull and lacking in brightness for this application. It also lacks porosity for adherence without causing underlying bubbles. Always use Dollar or Party store tissue for trim designs as it is brighter in colors and is porous. Attach the trim with thinner by brush ONLY. Any dope in the brush may cause the trim to not lay down. You can dope over the trim after the thinner has dried.

I hope this helps you to obtain a better sense of what you are dealing with in covering your model.

Best, Bill Schmidt



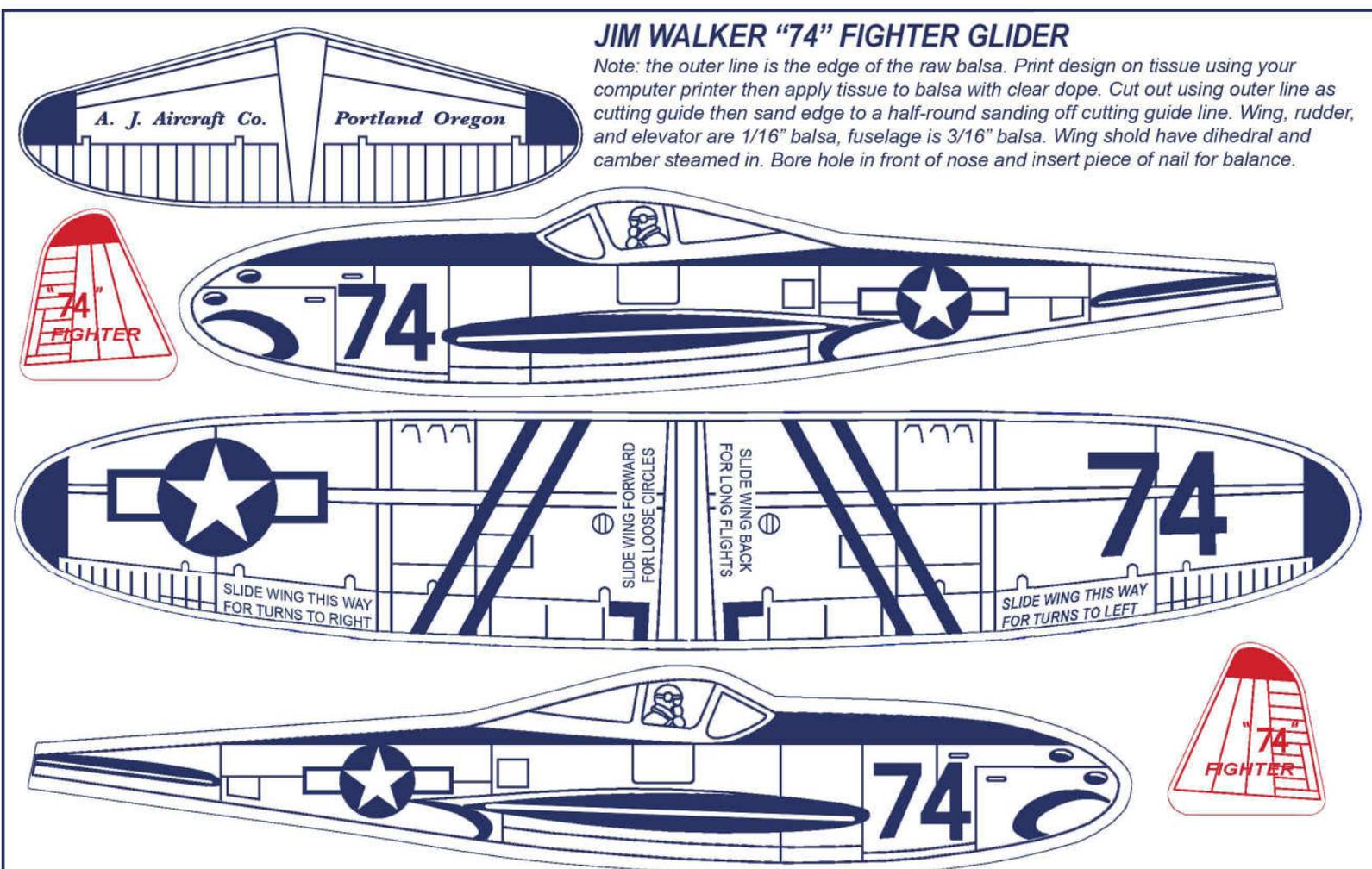
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STILL COLLECTING PLANS?

One of the new things out there is that the FAC Club web-site has started posting past issues (<http://flyingacesclub.com/>) in the About FAC section. I great way to access all (not quite yet) old plans that you remember. If you have any of the missing newsletter issues, let me know as I can figure a way to forward them on!

Additionally, there is a seller on Ebay who is putting up a lot of the plans from past FAC NL issues. I wanted everyone to know that you can use his posting method to get them free. If you want you can open one of his auctions, double click on the picture, which will open it up as .jpeg file From there , you can save the file on your computer. Seller's ID is banjoflier.

(http://www.ebay.com/sch/banjoflier/m.html?_ipg=50&_sop=10&_rdc=1)! While not as useful as a .pdf file you could print at whatever size you like. I figure that's all he is selling you is a copy anyway... and FAC has marked them with notices that the plans should not be resold anyway!



WHAM - News, Views and Reviews

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The next SAM 56 Dinner Meeting will be at:

Mediterranean Grill

335 S Towne East Mall Dr., Wichita, KS 67207

(316) 651-5599

Saturday, November 14, 2015

Social Hour @ 6:00 PM, Dinner @ 6:30 PM..

Upcoming events:

Last Chance for Flying? Dates: Nov 14

Club Events: 1/2A Texaco, Jimmy Allen, C/HLG, or as arranged.....

Membership Information:

Open to all interested AMA members, founded to encourage and promote the model airplane building hobby.
Member dues \$20 annually, Subscription only; \$12 annually, \$18 foreign.

Send checks to Jim O'Reilly, 4760 Battin, Wichita, KS 67220.

All memberships and subscription renewals are due January 1st of the new year.

Club Officers:

President: George Avila, 683-1474
Treasurer: Jim O'Reilly, 744-0856

Vice-President: Bill Schmidt, 744-0378,
Secretary: Jeff Englert, 722-7491